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ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PEAT INDUSTRY IN 1949

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Enterprises of the Main Administration of Peat Industry fulfilled the plan for the first 4 years of the Fourth Five-Year Plan for the production of finished peat 102.4 percent.

In 1949 the plan for finished peat was fulfilled 104.9 percent, i.e., 11.3 percent more than in 1948 and 50 percent more than in 1940.

All trusts fulfilled their peat-production plans except the Kalinin Trust, which completed only 76 percent of its plan, the Lithuanian Trust (72.9 percent), and the peat enterprises of Estonian SSR (54.1 percent).

Although the peat-production plan was generally exceeded, the plan for milled peat production was completed only 96.6 percent; it was not met by the Reshetnikovskiy, Ozeretsko-Nepluyevskiy, Vtoroy Teykovskiy, Zenginskiy, Chis-to-Borskiy, Tesovo I and II peat enterprises. The main reason for this failure was the fact that fields were poorly drained and otherwise not prepared.

The plan for mechanized collection of milled peat was fulfilled 107.8 percent. However, the Gor'kiy and Kalinin peat trusts did not meet their plans.

Semimechanized lump-peat extraction by TUM and UMK machines was completed 80 percent; the Ivanovo and Leningrad peat trusts failed to meet their plans. Mechanized molding of hydropeat reached 108 percent of the plan. In 1949 hydropeat molding was 83.5-percent mechanized, as against 76.2 percent in 1948, and all but the Leningrad and Sverdlovsk trusts exceeded their plans for hydropeat molding.

The year plan for drainage work was fulfilled 112.1 percent, but the Leningrad and Yaroslavl' trusts did not complete their plans.

- 1 -

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In past years, including 1949, the number of drained fields was 42 percent of all flooded fields and 60 percent of the area of fields subject to drainage (where peat occurred more than 0.8 meter deep).

The Main Administration for Construction of Peat Enterprises and the Main Administration of Peat Industry fulfilled their plans for excavation work in 1949; however, plans were not met by the Chernoramskiy, Leningrad, Shatura, and Sverdlovsk trusts.

The plan for mechanized loading of peat was fulfilled 105 percent in 1949; peat loading was 91.5 percent mechanized, as against 83.9 percent in 1948.

In 1949 both the basic plan for capital construction, which was increased 19 percent over 1948, and the plan for housing construction by the Main Administration of Peat Industry were fulfilled.

In the Main Administration for Construction of Peat Enterprises, operations showed general improvement although some new construction projects, including the Berendeyevo, the Demikhovskiy plant, the Uren'skiy timber management the Naziyevskiy and Pel'gorskiy construction projects operated inefficiently. The backlog in the Chistoborskiy and Orichevskiy construction projects was not liquidated, and construction of the Karinskiy bridge across the Cheptsa River is behind schedule.

The 1949 plan for production of peat-extraction equipment was fulfilled 108.9 percent, and the plan for spare parts 111 percent. The "Lentormash" Plant operated inefficiently in 1949, especially in the first 6 months of the year, and produced machines of poor quality.

Peat production (in tons of finished peat) per worker in the Main Administration of Peat Industry rose to 181 tons in 1949, as against 147.2 tons in 1948 and 142.4 tons in 1940. In 1949 the average percentage of norm fulfillment was 112.8 for flooding and extracting peat and 114.9 for collecting and drying. The Shatura, Orekhovskiy, Gor'kiy, and Yaroslavl' peat trusts had the highest levels of norm fulfillment, while the lowest productivity was observed in enterprises of the Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, and Ivanovo peat trusts.

The quality of peat extracted by enterprises of the Main Administration of Peat Industry was on the whole satisfactory. However, some enterprises seriously broke technical rules for peat extraction. The Berendeyevo Peat Enterprise collected peat which had a 50-percent moisture content without first drying it, with the result that 90,000 tons of damp milled peat were not used. A few other enterprises (Naziya, Pikinskiy, and others) also collected milled peat with a high moisture content. The Dunilovskiy, Rybinskiy, Yaroslavskiy, and other enterprises which extract lump peat also broke technical rules of peat extraction.

In 1949 the VNIITP (All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Peat Industry) designed and readied for production a machine for mechanized collection of lump peat working in conjunction with the TUM conveyor and a drainage machine designed for laying out drains to 1.5 meters deep (especially for fields processing milled peat). These machines were turned over to the Main Administration of Peat Industry for production. It also made and briefly tested the TOS electric piling machine for arranging milled peat in caravans and developed a separator for the TEMP peat-extracting machine. However, some important work was not completed by the VNIITP in 1949: reducing the moisture content in hydropeat, mechanizing drainage pipe installation, drying of lump peat, and laying railroad tracks.

Furthermore, in 1949 technological shops of the artificial peat dehydration plant were set up and the first thousands of tons of peat of standard moisture content were taken in.

- 2 -

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An important problem at present is the removal of leftover peat from old machine-molding and hydropeat pits. This leftover peat should be worked by the milling system. The Peat Enterprise imeni Klasson solved this problem and extracted 75,000 tons of peat from the old pits in 1949.

The number of seasonal workers in the peat industry decreased by 15,000 persons from 1946 to 1949 in spite of the stepped-up program. In this same period, 250,000 square meters of housing were built, in addition to new cultural institutions (71 in 1946, 66 in 1947, 110 in 1948, and 130 in 1949).

The 1950 plan for peat extraction calls for a 7-percent increase over the 1949 plan. Milled peat extraction will be increased from 37.7 percent in 1949 to 41.9 percent in 1950. Dredging by spreading machines will be increased from 5.3 to 6.8 percent, and, by the elevator method, decreased from 3.1 to 1.3 percent. Output per worker will be increased to 192 tons, as against 181 tons in 1949.

In 1950, 58 percent of all milled peat is to be extracted by mechanized processes, as against only 36 percent in 1949. Mechanized and semimechanized extraction of lump peat is to be increased to 16.5 percent of the total, as against 3.1 percent in 1949.

The number of fields employing the hydropeat process will be increased to 86.7 percent of all fields where the deposit is over 8 meters deep. Excavation work for installing and maintaining main water intake canals and reservoirs, and ballast work (ballastnye raboty) will be 80-percent mechanized, as against 66 percent in 1949. Sixty percent of all excavation work of drainage (kartovyy) canals will be mechanized, whereas in 1949 all this work was done manually. DVM drainage machines are to be used in draining fields of milled peat extraction for the first time in 1950.

In 1950, about 30 percent of all peat extracted by enterprises of the Ministry of Electric Power Plants must be supplied by 20 new peat enterprises now under construction by the Main Administration for Construction of Peat Enterprises. The extent of mechanized operations for the Main Administration for Construction of Peat Enterprises is planned as follows: draining peat masses, 80 percent; excavation work for railroad transport, 80 percent; digging drainage canals, 60 percent; preparing peat solution, 75 percent; timber logging, 20 percent; skidding timber, 90 percent; manufacturing cinder blocks, 86 percent; production of unfired brick, 76 percent.

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- 3 -

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